

DROYLSDEN
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

1925.

DROYLSDEN
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



Annual Report

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health.

1925.

URBAN DISTRICT OF DROYLSDEN.

Area, 1,009 acres.

Population—

At Census 1921	13,878
----------------------	--------

At middle of 1925 (estimated)	14,010
-------------------------------------	--------

Number of Inhabited Houses—

At Census, 1921	3,150
-----------------------	-------

Average number of persons per house, 1921.	4.41
--	------

At middle of 1925.....	3,273
------------------------	-------

Average number of persons per house	4.28
---	------

Number of families or separate occupiers, 1921	3,158
---	-------

Birth Rate for 1925	17.7
---------------------------	------

Death Rate for 1925	13.7
---------------------------	------

General District Rate, 1925-26	6/9 in the £
--------------------------------------	--------------

Poor Rate, 1925-26	6/9 in the £
--------------------------	--------------

Rateable Value, 1925-26	£63,164
-------------------------------	---------

Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£235
---------------------------------------	------

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1925.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
DROYLSDEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances, the sanitary administration, and the vital statistics of the Urban District of Droylsden for the year, 1925.

Previous Annual Reports have been ordinary Reports, but in accordance with special instructions of the Ministry of Health the present report is a Survey Report, and has been prepared in accordance with the Ministry's circular No. 648, dated the 10th December, 1925. In the preparation of Annual Reports for the year 1925, Medical Officers of Health have been notified to be prepared to deal comprehensively with:—

- (a) The measure of progress made in the area during the preceding five years in the improvement of the public health,
- (b) The extent and character of the changes made during that period in the public health services of the area (e.g., housing, water supply, sewerage, scavenging or refuse disposal, food inspection, or other services affecting the environment of the inhabitants, and maternity and child welfare schemes, schemes for the treatment of tuberculosis and venereal diseases,

provision of isolation hospitals, or other services directed to the prevention or cure of disease in individuals).

- (c) Any further action of importance in the organisation or development of public health services contemplated by the Local Authority or considered desirable by the Medical Officer of Health.

The Survey Report for 1925 is therefore required to contain as a minimum, information in regard to the matters specified in the Appendix to the Circular, set out as far as possible in the order given there. The subjects to be dealt with in the Report fall under the following main heads:—

Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Sanitary circumstances of the Area.

Housing.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Several of these services are administered by the Lancashire County Council, hence no special reference to them is made in this report.

Physical Features and General Character of the District.

The Droylsden Urban District lies between the City of Manchester and the Borough of Ashton under-Lyne, which are situated west and east of it respectively. On the north it is bounded by the Failssworth Urban and the Limehurst Rural Districts, and on the south by the Audenshaw Urban District. It forms practically part of the City of Manchester.

Geologically, the district is situated upon clay, overlying shale and coal.

The surface is generally flat, and is at a mean altitude of 300 feet above sea-level.

The district is divided into four Wards and houses are built principally along the three main thoroughfares.

Mills and factories are situated along the banks of two canals, and most of the land in the rest of Droylsden is unbuilt upon.

The industries are mainly cotton spinning and weaving, cloth finishing and dyeing, but a large number of men engaged in the iron and steel industry in adjacent districts reside in Droylsden.

The railway stations serving the district are Droylsden (L.M.S. Rly.), and Fairfield for Droylsden (L.N.E. Rly.). A double line of tramways is laid along Manchester Road, and during the year an excellent motor bus service, connecting Droylsden with West Didsbury, has been inaugurated by the Manchester Corporation. The Great Central Canals, Hollinwood and Ashton-under-Lyne branches, pass through the district.

Social Conditions.

The population is almost entirely industrial. The occupations (1921 census) were:—

Occupation.	Males.	Females
Total Population	6,598 ...	7,280
Aged 0—11	1,544 ...	1,536
Aged 12 and upwards	5,054 ...	5,744
<hr/>		
Agricultural Occupations	53 ...	8
Mining and Quarrying Occupations ...	135 ...	—
Makers of Coke, Lime, Cement, etc....	2 ...	2
Makers of Bricks, Pottery, Glass	9 ...	2

Occupation.	Males.	Females
Workers in Chemicals, Paints, etc. ...	84 ...	7
Metal Workers	1,085 ...	22
Workers in Precious Metals	2 ...	3
Electrical Apparatus Makers Fitters, etc.	58 ...	12
Makers of Watches, etc.	2 ...	—
Workers in Skins, Leather Goods Makers	20 ...	6
Textile Workers	726 ...	1,185
Makers of Textile Goods and Articles of Dress	49 ...	207
Makers of Foods, Drinks and Tobacco.	53 ...	113
Workers in Wood, etc.	158 ...	3
Paper Workers, Printers, etc.	32 ...	15
Builders, Bricklayers, etc.	190 ...	1
Painters and Decorators	49 ...	2
Workers in other Materials	18 ...	8
Workers in Mixed and undefined Materials	15 ...	1
Persons in Gas, Water, Electricity Supply	24 ...	—
Transport Workers	347 ...	23
Commercial & Financial Occupations.	361 ...	181
Public Administration and Defence ...	41 ...	—
Professional Occupations	75 ...	73
Persons employed in Entertainments, etc.	13 ...	1
Persons employed in Personal Service.	73 ...	199
Clerks, Draughtsmen, Typists, etc. ...	269 ...	184
Warehousemen, etc.	189 ...	133
Stationary Engine Drivers, etc.	36 ...	—
All other Occupations	449 ...	26
Total Occupied ...	4,677 ...	2,417
Unoccupied and Retired	377 ...	3,327
Total Occupied and Unoccupied...	5,054 ...	5,744

Vital Statistics.

	Total	Male	Female
Births in 1925	248 ...	107 ...	141
Deaths in 1925	182 ...	96 ...	86

Per 1,000 of Population.

	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Death Rate from Tuberculosis of of Respiratory System	Rate of deaths under one year to 1,000 Births
Mean of 5 years—				
1895—1899 ...	31.6	18.0	0.75	168
1900—1904 ...	29.1	17.0	0.94	166
1905—1909 ...	28.2	16.1	1.20	149
1910—1914 ...	24.2	14.6	1.00	125
1915—1919 ...	18.8	15.2	1.44	89
1920—1924 ...	21.6	12.0	0.85	87
Year—				
1924	18.6	13.1	1.06	80
1925	17.7	*12.9	0.64	72
Increase or decrease in 1925 on mean of 5 years,				
1920—1924 ...—3.9	+0.9	—0.21	—15	
Previous year —0.9	—0.2	—0.42	— 8	

*Standardizing factor 1.059; corrected death-rate = 13.7 per 1,000.

Birth Rate.

During the year the births of 248 infants (107 males and 141 females) were registered. Of these births, 4 males and 4 females were illegitimate.

Taking the population at 14,010, the birth-rate for the year is 17.7 per 1,000, as compared with 18.6 per 1,000 last year, or a decreased birth-rate of 0.9 per 1,000.

The mean birth-rate of the 5 years, 1920 to 1924 was 21.6 per 1,000.

Death Rate.

During the year the deaths of 182 persons (96 males and 86 females) were registered.

This gives a death-rate of 13.7 per 1,000, against 13.1 last year.

The mean death-rate of the 5 years, 1920-1924, was 12.0 per 1,000.

One woman died in, or in consequence of child-birth.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1925 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population Estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
				Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
		Num- ber.	Rate.	Num- ber.	Rate per 1000 nett Births.	Num- ber.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1916	{ 12951 14091	277	19·6	27	97	192	14·8
1917	{ 12701 14158	250	17·6	19	76	176	13·8
1918	{ 12727 14260	239	16·7	16	66	214	16·8
1919	{ 13122 13669	244	17·8	19	77	183	13·9
1920	13645	338	24·7	26	76	157	11·5
1921	14150	336	23·7	30	89	165	11·6
1922	14220	290	20·3	24	82	154	10·8
1923	14170	294	20·7	32	108	187	13·1
1924	14060	262	18·6	21	80	186	13·1
1925	14010	248	17·7	20	72	182	13·7

Causes of Death.	Males	Females.
Scarlet Fever	1	0
Whooping Cough	1	3
Influenza	6	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	0	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	5	4
Other Tubercular diseases	3	1
Cancer, Malignant disease	5	13
Diabetes	0	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	4	3
Heart Disease	8	15
Arteria Sclerosis	3	3
Bronchitis	10	12
Pneumonia (all forms)	7	4
Other Respiratory diseases	2	1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	1	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	4	3
Puerperal Sepsis	0	1
Congenital Debility and Malformation, and Premature Birth	7	5
Suicide	2	1
Other deaths from violence	7	4
Other defined diseases	20	9
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	96	86
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	182	
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	13	7
Total	20	

Poor Law Relief.

The following information has been kindly supplied by Mr. H. Hall Daley, Clerk to the Ashton-under-Lyne Union:—

	Men	Women	Child'n	Total			
Number of persons admitted to Darnton House from Droylsden during the year ended 31st December, 1925..	11	...	15	...	8	...	34

Number of persons admitted to Lake Hospital from Droylsden during the year ended 31st December, 1925..	21	...	24	...	14	...	59
	—		—		—		—
	32		39		22		93
	—		—		—		—

Number of persons who received Out-door Relief in Droylsden during the year ended 31st December, 1925..	98	...	147	...	224	...	469
---	----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Total Cost of Out-door Relief in Droylsden during the year ended 31st Dec., 1925....	£3,104	1	1
--	--------	---	---

There do not appear to have been any noteworthy causes of sickness or invalidity, or any conditions of occupation or environment which have had a prejudicial effect on health, during the period under review.

Droylsden Cemetery.

Droylsden Cemetery was opened on July 25th, 1896, and the site contains 15 acres of which a portion is laid out as a Park.

The Cemetery belongs to and is managed by the District Council, and up to the end of 1925 there were 7,279 interments.

Mortuary.

The public Mortuary is situated in a building at the rear of the Council Offices, and is occasionally used for conducting post-mortem examinations.

**General Provision of Health Services in the Area.
Hospitals Provided or Subsidised by the Local
Authority or by the County Council.**

There are no Hospitals in the District.

- (1) **Tuberculosis.**—Sanatoria treatment of tuberculous patients is arranged for and provided by the Tuberculosis Department of the Lancashire County Council, whose Dispensary for this District is situated at Ashton-under-Lyne.
- (2) **Maternity.**—Difficult maternity cases are sent to St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.
- (3) **Children.**—A considerable number of children are treated each year at the Voluntary Children's Hospitals in Manchester.
- (4) **Fever**, and (5) **Smallpox.**—The Urban District Council have an arrangement with the Hyde Corporation for the retention of beds and the treatment of patients suffering from fever, and other infectious diseases, at the Hyde Infectious Diseases Hospital, Gee Cross, Hyde.

Under this agreement four beds are retained—1 for Smallpox and three for other infectious diseases—at a rental of £18 per bed per annum.

- (6) **Puerperal Fever.**—In cases when hospital treatment has been considered necessary, the women and babies have been removed to the Hyde Hospital.

Institutional Provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children in the area,—None.

Ambulance Facilities.

An important change in the ambulance service was made in the year 1925 in consequence of a special report on

the subject, prepared by the Sanitary Inspector, and considered by the Council on the 4th February, 1925. The report showed that the Horse Ambulance, which was purchased at a cost of £152 17s. 0d. from funds raised by public subscription and presented to the Council on the 27th September, 1913, had become obsolete, and that owing to difficulty in arranging for horses, delays were occurring in urgent cases. The necessity for an improved service was indicated, and in March, 1925, the Horse Ambulance service was discontinued, and arrangements made with the Manchester City Council for the use by Droylsden residents of the Motor Ambulances belonging to the Manchester Police Department. The Motor Ambulances are now available day and night, and cases of accidents occurring in the streets or in other public places are removed free of charge. The charge for removal of other cases of accident and for private cases is 1s. 6d. per mile. By permission of the County Police Authorities, the use of the telephone at the Police Station, Manchester Road, is granted in cases of emergency, day or night, on payment of the call fee.

During the past year the Droylsden Horse Ambulance was used on 25 occasions, and the Manchester Motor Ambulances on 17 occasions.

In case of Infectious disease, the motor ambulance service of the Hyde Corporation is requisitioned for the conveyance of patients to the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The only Institution of this description is the Droylsden Child Welfare Centre, which is administered by the Lancashire County Council,

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Dr. Kinloch Falconer, M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

Mr. Frank Schofield, A.R.San.I., M.I.C.S., Sanitary Inspector and Superintendent of the Removal of Refuse.

The appointment of Medical Officer of Health is a part-time one. One-half of the salaries of both the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector is paid to the U.D. Council by the County Council, under arrangement with the Ministry of Health.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

The Droylsden Sick Nursing Association employs a whole-time Nurse for the visitation of the sick, but there are no arrangements in existence for the nursing of infectious diseases, e.g., measles, etc., in the home.

Midwives.

The Council does not employ or contribute to the assistance of a midwife. There are, however, two registered midwives practising, and these are generally found to be sufficient for the requirements of the district.

Legislation in Force.

The following Local Acts, Special Local Orders, General Adoptive Acts and Bye-laws relating to public health, are in force in the area:—

Local Acts	None.	Operative from
Local Orders	None.	
General Adoptive Acts	The Infectious Disease (Notifi- cation) Act, 1889	1st June, 1898.
	The Private Street Works Act....	26th August, 1901.
	The Infectious Disease (Preven- tion) Act, 1890	29th December, 1902.
	The Public Health Acts (Amend- ment) Act, 1890, (Parts II., III. and IV)	1st September, 1906.
	The Public Health Acts (Amend- ment) Act, 1907 (certain parts and sections)	17th November, 1913.
Bye-laws relating to public health	Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops .	1st September, 1902.
	Slaughter Houses	16th October, 1903.
	New Streets and Buildings	27th March, 1908.
	Offensive Trades	22nd May, 1914.
	Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures	23rd July, 1920.

The above regulations, etc., are administered in an active and efficient manner.

A new Draft Code of Bye-laws with respect to New Streets and Buildings is in course of preparation, and will be submitted to the Minister of Health for approval at an early date.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.

The water supply is derived from the service mains of the Manchester Corporation, and there is a constant supply of water of excellent quality.

Only one house is not supplied with water direct from the mains, such house deriving its water supply from a spring.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The drainage of the district is on the combined system, and the sewers are so constructed that the whole of the sewage finds its way to the Sewage Disposal Works by gravitation.

With the exception of 21 houses, the whole of the dwelling-houses, mills, and workshops in the district are connected with the main drainage system.

There is practically no pollution of streams taking place.

The Sewage Outfall Works are situated at Sunny Bank at a distance of some 300 yards from a few isolated dwelling-houses. The Sewage Disposal Works were remodelled in 1910, and consist of an Inlet Chamber, 2 Catchpits, 4 large Precipitation Tanks, 2 Bacterial Filters with fixed spray nozzles, and Humus Tanks were added in the year 1920. The initial flow of storm water is provided for by two large

tanks formerly used as precipitation tanks. The system works fairly well, although the standard of effluent is sometimes below the regulations of the Joint Committee. Much trouble is caused at the works by deleterious chemical trade waste, also by a considerably increased volume of water, and the Urban Council are giving earnest consideration as to the best means to be adopted for the remedy of these matters.

The closing down of the Refuse Destructor has necessitated a continuance of pumping liquid sludge into lagoons in the Greenside Valley.

Closet Accommodation

During the year 1925 there were 3 privy closets and 5 pails converted to the water-carriage system, leaving 25 privy closets and 11 pail closets in the district. During the years 1908-1925 there have been 1977 of these privy closets converted to the water-carriage system. This is a very fine achievement, when it is remembered that the whole cost and expense of the work has been borne by the owners respectively, no grant of any kind having been made by the District Council towards the cost.

The number of houses at which movable receptacles for refuse have been substituted for fixed receptacles during the last 5 years is 129.

The sanitary accommodation at the whole of the factories, churches, chapels and schools, is, with three minor exceptions at workshops with pails, now completely on the water-carriage system.

The following statement gives particulars of the closet accommodation, etc., in the District, with information as to the number of each type of closet remaining at the end of the year, 1925:—

No. of Fresh W.C.'s	No. of Waste W.C.'s	No. of Pail Closets	No. of Privy Closets	No. of Middens	No. of Dry Ashpits	No. of Portable Receptacles for Refuse						
3840	...	37	...	11	...	25	...	17	...	88	...	3058

The work of clearing away privy-closets is proceeding as quickly as possible, and the end of this objectionable system is almost in sight, but various difficulties are being encountered in obtaining the abolition of the few remaining structures.

Scavenging.

The work of refuse removal is carried out by administration, and is performed in an efficient manner. Middens and ashpits are cleansed in the night-time, and the refuse from movable ashbins is collected in the day-time. Ashpits and middens are emptied from time to time as required, and dry refuse is collected once weekly. Trade refuse from shops is removed twice per week.

Motor haulage was substituted for horse-drawn vehicles in 1922, and has resulted in much greater efficiency and promptitude in the removal of refuse.

The introduction of a weekly collection of refuse has rendered possible a reduction in the size of ashtins supplied, a tin 18" diameter by 20" high now being found quite ample for general use. The District Council supply new galvanised ashtins with covers to owners of property at a small margin over cost price, and this service is very greatly appreciated, in addition to obtaining the prompt removal of all worn-out and dilapidated receptacles. During the past five years new ashbins have been distributed from stock as follows:—

1921	.....	367	ashbins.
1922	.....	295	„
1923	.....	261	„
1924	.....	320	„
1925	.....	209	„
Total.....		<u>1452</u>	„

198 loads of nightsoil were removed from 339 ashpits and middens, and 3,336 loads of dry refuse were collected in the day-time. The total weight of domestic refuse collected during the year was 3,378 tons, and this was disposed of as follows:—

Deposited on tip in Greenside Valley	2968	tons.
Burned in Refuse Destructor	357	„
Spread on farm lands	53	„
Total.....		<u>3378</u> „

329 loads of trade refuse, weighing approximately 436 tons, were delivered at the works, and of which 29 tons were burned in the Destructor, and 407 tons tipped in the Greenside Valley.

The average weight of domestic refuse collected was equivalent to 4 cwts. 3 qrs. 8 lbs. per head, or 241 tons per 1,000 of the population per annum, and 20 cwts. 2 qrs. 16 lbs. per inhabited house per annum.

The cost of removal of all domestic refuse was £1,086. or 6s. 4d. per ton, as compared with £1,136 and 6s. 2½d. per ton in 1924. It is interesting to recall that during the last year (1921) when refuse was collected by the use of horses and carts, the cost was £1,560.

The sum of £44 was received for the removal of trade refuse.

The Refuse Destructor was worked during the two outbreaks of Smallpox, when all refuse from the infected areas was destroyed by fire. The remainder of the refuse was mostly tipped in the Greenside Valley in such a manner as not to lead to complaints or the creation of a nuisance. The Tip is free from vermin, but care has to be exercised to prevent nuisance from smoke, waste paper, etc., in windy weather. The use of the Tip is only continued for reasons of economy. The remaining available accommodation is limited, and will eventually be exhausted when the resumption of dealing with refuse in the Refuse Destructor will become imperative.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

During the year 2,053 major inspections were made by the Sanitary Inspector as follows:—

	Inspections.
Infectious Diseases	321
Smallpox—Patients and Contacts	300
Works in connection with deposited plans ...	40
Cowsheds	21
Milkshops	80
Bakehouses	40
Slaughter-houses and butchers' shops	55
Piggeries	30
Nuisances	237
Housing defects	217
Factories, workshops and workplaces (including smoke observations)	444
Miscellaneous inspections	268
Total.....	2053

These inspections resulted in the discovery of 753 nuisances.

Nuisances abated in 1925.

Insanitary privy-closets removed	3
Insanitary middens and ashpits replaced by metal ash-tins	8
Pail closets converted to W.C.'s.	5
Dilapidated ashbins replaced by new ashtins	209
Drain stoppages removed	59
Flooding of houses, cellars, etc.	13
Defective W.C.'s., cisterns, basins, etc.	21
Accumulations of manure, filth, etc.	27
Insanitary piggeries	2
Defective roofs, walls, gutters, chimneys, window frames and cords, doors, floors, staircases, plaster on walls and ceilings, washboilers, slopstones, ovens, flues, dry-rot, burst water-pipes	406
Verminous houses	3
Back-yard improperly covered in	1
Hut used for habitation	1
Smells from open manhole covers	4
Rats from manhole	1
Nuisances at slaughter-houses	2
Infected Public Library Book	1
Miscellaneous Nuisances	7
	<hr/>
Total.....	753
	<hr/>

Immediate and active steps were taken to obtain the remedy of these defects or nuisances, and for this purpose 296 Preliminary and 26 Statutory Notices were served upon the owners, agents, or occupiers of the respective premises. At the end of 1925 there remained 8 Preliminary Notices and 2 Statutory Notices not complied with, these being mainly Notices served during the latter part of the year.

New Buildings.

In connection with the erection of new buildings and the alteration to existing structures, a system was introduced during the year 1920 whereby all building plans deposited with the Surveyor are submitted to the Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector, who examine the proposals strictly from the health and sanitary points of view, afterwards appending their written observations to the plans,

which then go forward for consideration by the Health and Buildings Committees respectively .

Smoke Abatement.

The District Council have not instituted any proceedings with a view to smoke abatement, but 9 warnings have been issued during the year, and the Police have taken action against residents through the chimneys of their dwelling-houses being on fire.

239 observations of smoke from factory, etc., chimneys were made.

At a Conference of Local Authorities held in Manchester on the 27th November, 1924, and attended by the municipal representatives of 102 local authorities within a 15 miles radius around Manchester, it was decided to form a Committee entitled The Manchester Regional Smoke Abatement Committee to investigate the question of atmospheric pollution by smoke. An Executive Committee was appointed, upon which your Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Frank Schofield, A.R.San.I.), had the honour to be elected a member, to consider the following terms of reference:—

To consider and submit afterwards to the Joint Committee proposals which shall have for their object the purification of the atmosphere in the areas represented, and for this purpose to include in their considerations the possibility of effecting a standardization of procedure of the observations of smoke emission; of the permissible smoke emission periods; of action taken by the local Health Authority, and of the type of cases in which legal proceedings should be taken.

Further, that the Executive Committee be requested to consider the existing facilities for efficient observation of smoke emission, and as a corollary the need or possibility of joint action to be taken by various

Authorities, and in such an event, the form which such joint action would assume.

Also to consider:—The problem of dealing with domestic smoke, and educational propaganda suitable for the general public, manufacturers and boiler attendants.

The Executive Committee held seven meetings, and after many enquiries and full and careful consideration, submitted a lengthy report dated May 5th, embodying their recommendations. Copies of this report have been forwarded to all local authorities in the area, and it is expected that a further meeting of the representatives of the local authorities concerned will be held at an early date to discuss the recommendations.

Schools.

There are three Public Elementary Schools of modern construction and two other Day Schools of earlier date. The sanitary condition and water supply of these schools is good. It has not been found necessary during the year to close any schools for the purpose of preventing the spread of infectious disease, but the schools were thoroughly disinfected during each of the usual holidays and at such other times when children's diseases were prevalent in the district.

The High School for Girls was entirely re-modelled during the year 1920.

A weekly report is submitted by the School Attendance Officer indicating the prevalence of diseases amongst school children.

HOME OFFICE FORM 572.

By request of the Secretary of State the following information relative to the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with Factories, Workshops, Workplaces, and Homework is given.

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of			24
	Inspections (2)	Number of Written Notices (3)	Prosecutions (4)	
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	283	14	—	
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	141	22	—	
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises)	20	8	—	
Total	444	44	—	

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—				
Want of Cleanliness	9	9	—	—
Want of ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	29	29	—	—
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient unsuitable or defective not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s.101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences	6	6	1	—
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921).				
Total	44	44	1	—

Private Street Works.

The U.D. Council are proceeding with their policy of requiring the paving, etc., of Private Streets, and further progress has been made with the work during the year. No street works under the Private Street Works Act were executed between the years 1919 and 1924, but the following list shows the number of streets made up during the last two years (1924 and 1925), together with the cost of same to the owners:—

	£
Queen Street	674
Wharf Street	1,104
St. Andrews Avenue and Passage	1,344
Davenport Street	477
John Street	1,255
Copperas Lane	717
Mooreroft Street	513
Flint Street	359
Campbell Street (Greenside Lane to Raglan Street)	668
Passages behind Fairfield Road, Bowness Street and Gransmoor Road	160
Total.....	<u>£7,271</u>

HOUSING.

I.—General Housing Conditions in the Area:—

(1) General Housing Conditions.

There are 3,273 inhabited houses in Droylsden as follows:—

1—3 rooms	348
4—5 ,,	2486
6—8 ,,	410
9 or more rooms	29
Total.....	<u>3273</u>

(2) **Extent of shortage or excess of houses.**

The total minimum number of houses required to meet the present shortage is:—

	houses.
Houses of the two-bedroom type	111
Houses of the three-bedroom type	61
Houses of the four-bedroom type	21
	<hr/>
Total.....	193
	<hr/>

II.—Overcrowding.

(1) **Extent.**

The amount of overcrowding measured by density of persons per room cannot be regarded as excessive, but there are, it is estimated, some 244 cases where two separate families are occupying one house, although it does not necessarily follow that overcrowding exists in every case.

(2) **Causes.**

- (a) Overcrowding of large families in small houses.
- (b) Separate families living in lodgings or rooms.
- (c) Houses without sufficient bedrooms for the separation of adolescents of separate sexes.
- (d) The cessation of building by private enterprise.

(3) **Measures taken or contemplated for dealing with overcrowding.**

The Urban District Council have erected 77 houses with the aid of State assistance, and are now contemplating the offering of a substantial subsidy to encourage the building of houses by private builders. The erection of houses by private enterprise is practically at a standstill, only ten of such houses having been built during the past five years.

No action in the case of overcrowding can be taken owing to the absence of alternative accommodation.

III.—Fitness of Houses.

(1) (a) General Standard of Housing in the Area.

A reasonable standard of housing is maintained, and all necessary repairs are insisted upon, but, owing to the considerable age of very many houses, defects are continually recurring, causing an immense amount of supervision such as would not be required in a more modernly-built town.

(b) General character of the defects found to exist in unfit houses.

These defects consist of dilapidations due to decay, such as leaky roofs, cracked downfall pipes, dampness of walls due to the absence of damp-proof course and defective pointing, loose plaster on walls and ceilings, damp and broken flagged floors, defective window cords and frames, broken door fasteners, dry-rot in floors and stairs, cracked ranges, and defective yard surfaces.

No difficulty is usually experienced in getting these repairs effected, but many owners defer the execution of repairs until required to carry out the work by the Council. It is not often found that the defects are due to acts of waste or neglect by tenants. There are, of course, exceptions to this rule, but on the whole, the majority of the people are of a house-proud nature, and have no hesitation in reporting to the Sanitary Inspector any defects for repair, so that their houses can be maintained in a neat and tidy manner.

(2) General action taken as regards unfit houses under—

(a) The Public Health Acts.

(b) The Housing Acts.

The remedy of defects is in the ordinary way, obtained after a letter to, or personal interview with, the owner. Where difficulty is experienced, a preliminary notice under the Public Health Acts is issued, and in cases of delay the matter is reported to the Health and Works Committee, and a Statutory Notice served on the owner under the Housing Acts. Failing compliance with the latter notice, the work is then executed by the Council, and the cost recovered from the owner.

(4) Conditions as regards water supply, etc.

The whole of the houses in the District, with one exception, are supplied with water from the mains of the Manchester Corporation, closet accommodation is now almost entirely on the water-carriage system, and the common receptacle for refuse is the movable galvanised ashtin with cover. A few privy middens and ash-pits are still in existence, but these are gradually being wiped out.

IV.—Unhealthy Areas

None.

V.—Byelaws relating to houses, to houses let in lodgings, and to tents, vans, sheds, etc.

The only Byelaws under this heading are those relating to Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures. These dwellings are discouraged in this District, and the Byelaws are enforced on every occasion where applicable.

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

No. of new houses erected during the year—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	2
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts.	
(1) By the Local Authority.....	—
(2) By other bodies or persons.....	—

No of houses in course of erection under Council's
Building Scheme —

Financial assistance for purposes of increasing
housing accommodation:—

Have any advances been made during 1925?

(a) By Loans? No. Amount of loans, £..... None

(b) By Subsidy? No. Amount of subsidies £..... None

Unfit Dwelling-houses.

Inspection.—(1) Total No. of dwelling-houses
inspected for housing defects (under Public
Health or Housing Acts) 569

(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were inspected and
recorded under the Housing (Inspection of
District) Regulations, 1910 or the Housing
Consolidated Regulations, 1925 2

(3) No. of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so
dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit
for human habitation 2

(4) No. of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those
referred to under (3)) found not to be in all
respects reasonably fit for human habitation.. 25

Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

No. of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in conse-
quence of informal action by the Local
Authority or their Officers 23

Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act,
1925:—

(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	1
(2) No. of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	1
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—	
(1) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	454
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	426
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925:—	
(1) No. of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	1
(2) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(3) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ...	—

(4) No. of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
(5) No. of dwelling-houses demolished in pursu- ance of Demolition Orders.....	1
D.—No. of houses demolished voluntarily by owners, or converted to workshops, etc.	—

Inspection and Supervision of Food. Milk Supply. Milkshops.

There are 60 registered retail purveyors of milk including one sterilized milk depot, and three dairies. During the year a special inspection of the district was made by the Sanitary Inspector and a new Register compiled under the Milk and Dairies (Amendment) Act, 1922, and the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, of which the latter Act only came into operation on the first day of September, 1925.

In granting Certificates of Registration to milk retailers, and in allowing the business of milk selling to continue, the Urban Council have regard to any other trade or business carried on at the same premises. Although new Certificates have been issued to all milk retailers whose premises were found to be satisfactory, it is recognised that the danger of milk contamination is present at most shops, and steps have been taken to guard against this as far as possible. Existing businesses have been considered on a separate basis from proposals to open new businesses. Where the Inspector has reported that milk can be stored and sold without undue risk of contamination in premises which are at present, and have been continuously registered for the sale of milk, and that the applicants are suitable, the registration has been acceded to by the Council. Re-registration is required on all changes of tenancy. Registration of new milkshops

receives special consideration, and unless certain conditions relating to lighting, ventilation, and the provision of separate accommodation for cleansing milk vessels and for the storage of milk are complied with, registration is generally refused. It is also felt that the sale of milk can not be satisfactory where certain kinds of food and merchandise are exposed for sale, and it is made a condition of registration that the sale of these articles must be discontinued. Exception is however made in the case of bottled milk, and four Certificates of Registration have been granted for the sale of Bottled Milk in instances where probably the sale of raw milk would not have been permitted. The demand for milk in bottles, which effectually safeguards the milk against danger of contamination, both in transit and on sale, is on the increase, milk in this form now being offered at about one-half of the milkshops in the district.

There are no milk producers or distributors in Droylsden who hold special licenses for the sale of milk bearing any of the following designations:—"Certified," "Grade A (Tuberculin Tested)," "Grade A," or "Pasteurised."

Samples of milk for the purpose of analysis are taken from time to time by the police authorities and by the Inspectors of Food and Drugs, but apart from this no special action has been taken by the Council as to testing cattle and milk for evidence of tuberculosis. Inspections of the herds have not revealed any suspected cases of the disease. The services of a qualified Veterinary Surgeon are available, but his opinion has not been required by the Council during the year.

Cowsheds.

The Cowsheds are 17 in number and are situated as follows;—

Name	Address.	Remarks
Geo. Dodd	Moorside Farm	
Jos. Lomas	Moss Bank Farm	
Edw. S. Grange	Graver Lane Farm	
S. Williamson	Oakfield Farm	
H. Bowden	Dunkirk Farm	
Geo. Healey	Christy's Farm	
J. M. Barnsley	Alderdale Farm	Not used.
S. & M. Coates	Vauxhall Farm	
M. Metcalfe	Clock House Farm	
S. Burdekin	Diamond Farm	
J. Newton	Ivy House Farm	Not used.
F. Cooper	Greenside Farm	
J. Newton	Oaks Farm	
J. A. Mellor	Four Fold Farm	Not used.
J. Walker	Greenside Lane Farm...	
W. A. Lindley	Cordingley Farm	
Geo. Fielding	Gartside Farm	

The farmstead at Sunny Bank Farm was taken over during the year by the Urban District Council and converted into a residence for the Recreation Grounds Attendant.

The whole of the Cowsheds are in good condition, and are generally found to be kept in clean and sweet condition.

The business of producing milk locally is steadily on the decline, the cause of which being poorness of local pasture, due to impure atmospheric conditions, and competition by road and rail-borne milk from country districts. The quantity of milk brought by road appears to be gradually growing, and in this matter the farmers and dealers are assisted by the extended use of motor transport, which enables an adequate supply of fresh milk to be brought into the district early each morning.

During the last eighteen months, the cowsheds at Moorside Farm have been rebuilt, and the farmyard paved. At Greenside Farm a middenstead which was overflowing on to an adjoining lane has been dealt with. Graver Lane Farm has been totally re-drained and connected to the Council's

sewer, and W.C.'s substituted for pail closets. At Cordingley Farm permission to commence the trade of cowkeeper was withheld until the applicant had complied with the regulations relating to construction of floors, drainage, ventilation, lighting, and dairy accommodation, and had put the premises generally into satisfactory condition.

The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

These Regulations, which became operative on the 1st April, 1925, contain provisions for the regulation of slaughter-houses and slaughtering, and in particular for requiring notices of slaughtering, and of evidence of disease to be given to the appropriate officer of the Local Authority, who in the case of Droylsden, is the Sanitary Inspector. Provision is also made for meat marking where the Minister of Health is satisfied that the Local Authority have an adequate and competent staff of inspectors. Parts IV, V and VI. of the Regulations contain provisions for the protection of meat against contamination by dirt, etc., and have been framed with a view to preventing objectionable practices in the handling, storage, and transport of meat, so far as this can be effected by administrative action on the part of local authorities, and it is hoped that the proper enforcement of the present code will go a long way towards securing an improvement in the general conditions under which the meat is treated before it reaches the public. There are however some practices, the Ministry point out, which do not lend themselves to control by regulation, and in regard to which improvement can only be effected by the force of public opinion and the refusal of the public to buy their meat where such conditions obtain. An instance of this is the practice of handling meat before purchase. It is felt that a specific prohibition of such a practice, where the customer is the party mainly at fault, could not be effectively enforced, but that the co-operation of the trade

might with advantage, be invited in securing its discontinuance, by displaying notices urging customers not to handle meat before purchase.

To ascertain the extent to which the new Regulations had been met, the Sanitary Inspector made a special investigation of, and report on, the whole of the meat retailers' shops and slaughter-houses in the district. There were sixteen retail meat shops and seven slaughter-houses. At the meat shops it was found that the Regulations were being fully complied with in every detail, with the exception that in some cases satisfactory arrangements were not made for the proper storage of trimmings and rubbish. These defects were pointed out and promptly remedied, and the shops can now be described as having reached a high standard of cleanliness and good management. No meat of an unsound nature has been found, and no complaints in this respect have been received from the public. About $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwts. of unmarketable pork and bacon were, however, surrendered after inspection. The number of slaughter-houses continues to diminish, there now being six, of which only five are in use, against ten in 1914. A detailed inspection of the slaughter-houses revealed several contraventions of the new Regulations, and active steps were taken to have these remedied. One slaughter-house was found to be neither registered nor licensed, and another, on account of its dilapidated condition was promptly closed. Manufacturing of food was found to be taking place in two slaughter-houses, and this has now been prohibited. With the exception of the local Co-operative Society's premises there is no extensive slaughtering taking place at any of the slaughter-houses in the district. The prevailing custom of the butchers is to buy meat direct from the Manchester Abattoirs in such quantities as the state of trade demands. Supplies are obtained from day to day as required, this

ensuring a constant supply of fresh meat of good quality for the district. The tendency is for the private slaughter-house to be gradually eliminated, and the Urban Council are directing their policy towards bringing this about.

The following private slaughter-houses were in use in the area at the dates mentioned:—

	In 1920		In Jan. 1925.		In Dec. 1925
No. registered	6	.....	4	.....	4
No. Licensed	2	.....	2	.....	2
	—		—		—
Total.....	8		6		6
	—		—		—

Bakehouses.

At the end of 1925 there were 28 bakehouses on the Register. The whole of these premises have been thoroughly inspected, and the records brought up to date.

The Bakehouses were found to be very well-kept, cleanly, and in good structural condition. Three instances were found where the Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act was not affixed on the premises, and particulars of these were forwarded to H.M. Inspector.

The last remaining underground bakehouse in the district was closed in December, 1924.

The registered Bakehouses are mostly small, and are usually situated in proximity to the dwelling portion of the premises.

The number of bakehouses in the District does not tend to increase, no doubt due to completion by large wholesale firms who deliver supplies of fresh-made bread into the town daily. A satisfactory feature of the latter system is that the loaves are now supplied to the retailers and customers in most cases separately wrapped in paper, which

effectually guards the bread against contamination, both during delivery and storage.

I am indebted to Supt. A. Proffitt for the following Report of samples taken in Droylsden during 1925:—

Ashton-under-Lyne Division.

**Return of Samples under Food and Drugs Acts
taken in Droylsden during 1925.**

Nature of Sample.	No. of Samples taken.	Result of Analysis.
Borax	1	Genuine.
Baking Powder	1	do.
Carbonate of Soda	1	do.
Ground Rice	1	do.
Arrowroot	1	do.
Liquorice Powder	1	do.
Sugar	1	do.
Pepper	1	do.
Coffee	1	do.
Ground Ginger	1	do.
Milk	22	19 genuine. 3 found on analysis to contain Form- aldehyde and vendor was cautioned. Comparison samples taken later from same vendor found genuine.

County Police Office,
Hurst Brook.

(Signed) A. PROFFITT,
Superintendent

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Disease.

A review of the prevalence of notifiable infectious diseases during the period since 1920, shows that Scarlet Fever continues to be the principal notifiable disease. Indeed, the number of cases of this disease shows a marked increase over the previous 5 years. During the 5 years 1916-1920 there were 106 cases, whilst during the 5 years

1921-1925 there occurred 321 cases. The continued prevalence of the disease can be mainly attributed to infection from overlooked cases consequent upon the mildness of the disease, which considerably increases the difficulties of control.

Diphtheria was also unusually prevalent during the year, 15 cases being reported, which is the largest number of cases in one year since 1912. This is a dangerous infectious disease, and I would advise the public that all cases of sore throat, particularly in children, should be immediately seen by a doctor. One day's delay in the early stages of Diphtheria may mean death to the patient.

Two minor outbreaks of Smallpox occurred during the year. There were three cases in the first outbreak which occurred in April, and two cases in June. The source of infection in the first outbreak was never definitely established, but the second was directly traceable from East Kirby, Nottingham. The patients were instantly removed to the isolation hospital, the premises disinfected, contacts supervised, and all necessary precautions and action taken by the Public Health staff. In consequence of the inadequacy of the ordinary staff to deal with outbreaks of this description, and to preserve co-ordination between this and other neighbouring districts who were similarly invaded with the disease, very considerable assistance was rendered by the Lancashire County Council Public Health Department, to whom I tender my thanks for their valuable services. The cost of the two outbreaks to the district fund was approximately £215.

Chicken-pox was made notifiable from April 18th, 1925 to April 18th, 1926, and 188 notifications of this disease were received during the year under review.

Enteric Fever has practically disappeared, no cases occurring in 1925, and only 2 cases during the previous four years.

No cases of Puerperal Fever, Poliomyelitis, or Encephalitis Lethargica occurred during the year.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is kept at the Local Police Station, and is available at any time, day or night. The anti-toxin is supplied free, to medical practitioners, in phials of 8,000 units each. Under the Diphtheria Anti-toxin Order of 1910, 128,000 units of Diphtheria Anti-toxin were supplied for administration to patients residing in the district during the year. No other sera or vaccines were issued.

On the receipt of notification of infectious disease, enquiries are instituted as soon as possible as to the causes of infection, and the premises examined to ascertain if insanitary conditions exist, and such where found, are caused to be immediately remedied. Complete isolation of the patients from non-infected members of the household is insisted upon, and children of school-age are excluded from school. Disinfectants are supplied free, and when the patients are sufficiently recovered, the houses and infected articles therein, are thoroughly disinfected by means of formaldehyde vapour and Izal fluid. During the year 133 houses were disinfected by the Council as follows:—Scarlet Fever, 62; Tuberculosis, 25; Diphtheria, 12; Smallpox, 8; Influenza, 7; Cancer, 1; Verminous Houses, 18; Total, 133.

The public schools were disinfected on 17 occasions. It was not found necessary to close any schools on account of infection.

A modern Steam Disinfector (Alliott's patent) is installed at the destructor works, but owing to the intermittent working of the Refuse Destructor, this appliance is not usually available.

A suitable four-wheeled Van and a small Hand Van are available for conveying infected articles to and from the Disinfecting Station.

Owing to insufficient means of isolation at home, or for the protection of foodstuffs, 24 cases of Scarlet Fever, 9 cases of Diphtheria, in addition to 5 cases of Smallpox, were removed to the Hyde Hospital for Infectious Diseases, where 4 beds, (1 for Smallpox, and 3 for other Infectious Diseases), are retained at an annual retaining fee of £18 per bed. As many beds as required in addition to the above are available, at an increased fee for maintenance, up to the limit of accommodation of the Hospital.

Enquiries as to the source of infection in the cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Erysipelas, invariably lead to very inconclusive results, and the activities of the Department are directed principally towards preventing the spread of the infection after definite cases have been encountered.

Arrangements made with the Manchester Public Health Laboratory for the examination of swabs taken from throats suspected to be Diphtheritic, sputum collected from patients suspected to be Tubercular, and blood collected from patients suspected to be suffering from Enteric Fever, by practitioners in attendance on residents in the district, resulted in 25 examinations being made as follows:—

Diphtheria 24, and Tuberculosis sputum 1. 6 of the Diphtheria specimens proved positive and that of the sputum, negative. In addition, 58 specimens of sputum, urine, etc., were examined at the Ashton Tuberculosis Laboratory during the year. Of these 19 were positive and 39 were negative.

Under the Public Health (Smallpox prevention) Regulations, 1917, the Medical Officer of Health performed 37 primary vaccinations and 34 re-vaccinations.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR, 1925.

TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED.

Notifiable Diseases.	Total cases at all ages	YEARS.											65 over	Total deaths
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65		
Smallpox	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	1	—	—
Scarlet Fever	64	—	—	5	6	8	33	7	5	—	—	—	—	1
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	15	—	—	1	1	3	6	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia .	49	3	2	6	4	2	6	2	1	7	8	6	2	11
Acute Prim. Pneumonia														
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	4	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	21	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	7	3	7	—	9
Other forms of Tuberculosis	12	—	1	—	1	2	2	1	1	1	—	3	—	4
Chicken-pox	188	15	20	14	27	35	66	5	3	1	1	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Totals.....	363	21	23	26	39	50	114	21	15	18	12	22	2	30

Cases removed to Hospital:—Smallpox, 5; Diphtheria, 9; and Scarlet Fever 24. Total, 38 cases.
Deaths in Hospital:— 0.

The following table shows the number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the last 10 years:—

	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Smallpox	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Diphtheria	9	13	6	2	12	9	7	6	7	15
Erysipelas	10	7	15	18	7	10	17	4	4	6
Scarlet Fever ..	19	13	24	24	26	75	96	47	39	64
Enteric Fever ..	4	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	0
Puerperal Fever	1	3	3	0	3	0	2	3	0	0
Polioomyelitis ...	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Encephalitis										
Lethargica ...	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	0
Pulmonary										
Tuberculosis.	43	47	39	33	27	17	15	20	20	21
Other forms of										
Tuberculosis.	23	27	10	5	14	8	9	16	13	12
Pneumonia	0	0	0	38	35	37	32	61	60	49
Ophthalmia										
Neonatorum..	6	6	11	8	8	2	2	2	2	3
Malaria	0	0	0	24	8	3	2	0	0	0
Dysentery	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	118	231	63	116	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chicken Pox	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	188
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals...	233	349	172	269	142	163	197	160	147	363
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1925.

The following table gives particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1925.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years.								
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	3	1	—	—	1	—
5—10	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	1
10—15	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—20	1	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
20—25	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	4	—	1	1	2	—	—
35—45	2	1	—	1	1	1	—	—
45—55	3	2	2	—	3	—	1	—
55—65	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Totals	9	12	7	5	5	4	3	1
	21		12		9		4	

Notifications of tuberculosis by medical practitioners are carried out in a satisfactory and thorough manner, and no action has been found necessary for enforcing the regulations or enforcing prompt notification.

On receipt of notifications of cases of tuberculosis, particulars are transmitted through the County Medical Officer of Health to the Consultant Tuberculosis Officer, at Ashton-under-Lyne, who arranges for the domiciliary, dispensary, sanatorium or pulmonary hospital treatment of the patients.

The homes of the patients are visited by a Health Visitor on the staff of the tuberculosis dispensary, and on the results of her investigations, reports on the environmental conditions existing at each of the respective premises are received, in which attention is drawn to any special defects existing. These defects are immediately examined by the Sanitary Inspector, who takes steps to cause the same to be remedied.

During the year, environmental reports were received relating to 33 houses, at 3 of which special defects were notified, varying from broken window cords to leaky roofs, damp walls, floors and over-crowding. In all these cases the necessary repairs have been effected, and the over-crowding abated.

Importance is attached to the disinfection of the homes of tuberculous subjects, and this is performed free at any time on request.

Arrangements are also in force whereby notification is received from the County Council of the proposed admission of a patient into Sanatorium or Pulmonary Hospital, and from the Registrar of Deaths on the registration of a death from tuberculosis, and in each of these cases thorough disinfection of the premises is carried out.

During the year 25 houses were disinfected after tuberculosis.

No action was necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade and no compensation has been paid.

The following Report on Tuberculosis has been received from Dr. J. L. Stewart, M.A., M.B., D.P.H., Consultant Tuberculosis Officer:—

Tuberculosis Dispensary,
Warrington Street,
Ashton-under-Lyne,
10th May, 1926.

Urban District of Droylsden.

Report of Tuberculosis Officer for the year 1925.

During the year, thirty-two notifications of patients suffering from Tuberculosis were received. Of these, twenty were notified as suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and twelve from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Of the twenty Pulmonary cases, eleven were found to have tubercle bacilli in the sputum, one had negative sputum, six had no expectoration; in one case the sputum was not examined, and one case was in Asylum when notified.

The twelve non pulmonary cases were classified as follows:—

Glands	6
Genito-urinary	1
Ribs	2
Abdomen	1
Ankle	1
Synovial membrane	1

Of the notified cases, seven of the pulmonary cases died during the year.

Twenty-six of the thirty-two cases applied for treatment. In the remaining six cases no application was made for the following reasons:—Admitted to Union Hospital (1), admitted to Asylum (1), no treatment necessary (1), diagnosis not confirmed after examination (1), refusals to apply (1), and patient removed from Droylsden immediately after notification (1).

Of the patients who applied for treatment, six were sent to Sanatoria, seven to Pulmonary Hospitals for advanced cases, three to General Hospital for surgical treatment, etc. and one was admitted to Observation Hospital. The remaining nine cases were under Dispensary Supervision only.

In addition to the notified cases, a number of patients are sent to the Dispensary by the doctors for examination and diagnosis. During the year, fifty-six new cases were sent for diagnosis by the doctors, School Medicals Officers, etc. The number of re-attendances of old cases at the

Dispensary for supervision and arrangements for treatment, was two-hundred and twenty-five.

Special enquiries are made as to the health of other inmates of the house where there are patients suffering from definite Tuberculosis, and fifteen of these contacts were examined during the year.

In supervision and visiting, special attention is paid the open cases, i.e., cases where tubercle bacilli are present or have been found in the sputum. On the 1st January, 1925, seventeen such cases were known to be living in the district. On the 31st December, 1925, there were twenty positive cases living. These figures include quiescent and arrested cases.

The number of positive cases living at 31st December, 1925, who had tubercle bacilli in the sputum during 1925, was sixteen. The other four cases had either negative or no sputum.

Ten of the positive cases died during the year.

Two positive cases removed from the district during the year.

The condition as to isolation at home of the positive cases was as follows:—

Separate bedroom	28
Separate bed	2
Not separate bed	1

Eighteen of the positive cases were in Institution for treatment or isolation at some time during the year.

Three housing defects were reported during the year, and these had been remedied by the end of the year.

Fifty-eight specimens of sputum, urine, etc. from Droylsden were examined at the Ashton Laboratory during the year. Of these, nineteen were positive, and thirty-nine were negative.

During the twelve months, twenty-six patients were discharged from institution as follows:—

From Sanatoria	7
,, Pulmonary Hospitals for advanced cases	9
,, General Hospital for treatment of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7
,, Sanatoria for treatment of Non-Pulmonary cases	2
,, Observation Hospital	1

The results on discharge were as follows:—

Quiescent or arrested	2
Improved	13
I. s. q.	4
Died	6
Diagnosis confirmed (Observation case)	1

During the year 1925, there was one death from Tuberculosis (Meningitis) where no notification of the disease was received at any time.

(Signed) J. L. STEWART.

Venereal Diseases.

A scheme for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal diseases is in operation by the County Council.

Arrangements have been made with a large number of Institutions in various parts of the County for the free treatment of any person suffering from Venereal Disease. Any medical practitioner, on application to the County Medical Officer of Health, will be supplied with an outfit for the purpose of sending a specimen from a person suffering, or

suspected to be suffering, from Venereal Disease, for examination, such examination being carried out free of charge. Medical practitioners (approved for this purpose) are also supplied gratuitously with arsenobenzol compounds, and can consult free of cost with the Medical Officer of a Treatment Centre.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The Lancashire County Council are the supervising authority under the Midwives Act, and the provisions of these statutes are carried out entirely by them.

A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, established in 1916, is conducted by the Lancashire County Council, as is also the School Medical Service.

Upon the receipt of notifications of Puerperal Fever, prompt inquiries are instituted, and the result of the investigation transmitted to the County Medical Officer, who at his discretion causes further inquiries to be made by the County Inspector of Midwives. Disinfection of the clothing and equipment of a midwife who has been in attendance upon a case of Puerperal Fever is insisted upon.

Conclusion.

In conclusion I wish to convey my thanks to the various Officials of the Council who have helped me in the fulfilment of my duties during the course of the year, and in particular I must place on record my keen appreciation of the loyal co-operation and valuable services of the Sanitary Inspector in the active administration of the Public Health work in the District.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

K. FALCONER, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

